

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11
AID-05 PC-01 AGRE-00 TRSE-00 EB-08 COME-00 OMB-01
FRB-03 STR-07 CEA-01 HA-05 /099 W
-----078323 230925Z /14

R 222143Z AUG 78

FM AMEMBASSY LIMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1531

C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMA 7492

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOP PINT EFIN PE

SUBJ: AMBASSADOR'S STATEMENTS ON U.S. SUPPORT FOR PERU

REF: (A) PARNELL/STEIN TELECON AUG 21; (B) STATE 203515 (NOTAL)

1. I UNDERSTAND FROM A REPORT ON REF A THAT THE ECUADOREAN EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON HAS INQUIRED ABOUT MY "STATEMENTS OF SUPPORT" FOR PERU.

2. WHENEVER I TRAVEL IN THIS COUNTRY, OR IN FACT WHENEVER I GO TO THE AIRPORT HERE, THE PRESS DESCENDS UPON ME. THE QUESTIONS ARE ALWAYS THE SAME: IN EFFECT, WHAT IS THE U.S. GOING TO DO FOR PERU? MY RESPONSE IS ALWAYS TO POINT OUT THAT OUR BILATERAL ASSISTANCE THIS FISCAL YEAR IS RUNNING CLOSE TO \$70 MILLION, THAT WE HOPE TO INCREASE THAT LEVEL IN THE YEARS AHEAD, AND THAT OUR PRIMARY INTERESTS ARE IN IMPROVED AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION AND THE SATISFACTION OF BASIC HUMAN NEEDS. THE PAPERS INVARIABLY RUN THIS RECITATION AS THOUGH I HAD NEVER SAID ANY OF IT BEFORE.

3. LAST WEEK I TRAVELED TO PIURA WHERE THE SAME ROUTINE OCCURRED. PRESUMABLY THE NEWS ITEMS IN THAT INSTANCES WERE WHAT AROUSED THE ECUADOREANS. IT WOULD NOT
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SEEM TO ME NECESSARY TO JUSTIFY TO THEM A POLICY OF MODEST ASSISTANCE TO THIS IMPOVERISHED COUNTRY, OR TO DEFEND STATEMENTS THAT MAY PROVIDE SOME SMALL MEASURE OF THE HOPE HAYA DE LA TORRE HAS DESCRIBED AS SO NECESSARY AT THIS DIFFICULT MOMENT.

4. AS FOR REF B, AFTER DUE CONSIDERATION I HAVE DECIDED

NOT TO USE PUBLICLY THE STATEMENT ON DEBT RESCHEDULING
UNLESS FACED WITH A DIRECT QUESTION. I WOULD LIKE TO
KNOW A GOOD DEAL MORE ABOUT THE TERMS AND EFFECTS OF
RESCHEDULING BEFORE GOING PUBLIC ON THAT SUBJECT.

5. I SHOULD NOTE THAT NO ONE IN THIS EMBASSY HAS MADE
PUBLIC STATEMENTS OR OFFERED PUBLIC COMMENTS OF ANY
KIND ON ANY PROBLEM BETWEEN ECUADOR AND PERU.
SHLAUDEMAM

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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To: STATE
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